Talks with Pakistan

*160. PROFESSOR M. SANKARLINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Indian stand of the next year's SAARC Summit;

(b) the India's position about holding talks with Pakistan on cross-border terrorism;

(c) whether Government have planning to hold talks in the future before the SAARC Summit with Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) India is fully committed to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) process. Government of India feels that there should be substantial progress, especially in the economic cooperation agenda, on decisions taken in the last summit for the SAARC Summit to be meaningful.

(b) to (d) India remains firmly committed to the path of dialogue and reconciliation in keeping with the Simla Agreement and Lahore Declaration. India has repeatedly called upon Pakistan to end its sponsorship of terrorism in India so that a conducive environment can be created for the resumption of bilateral dialogue.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Amount released under PMRY

886. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount allocated and released by Government during the last two years under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), State-wise;

(b) the mechanism to monitor operation of the programme;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints from the States regarding this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?